



# Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

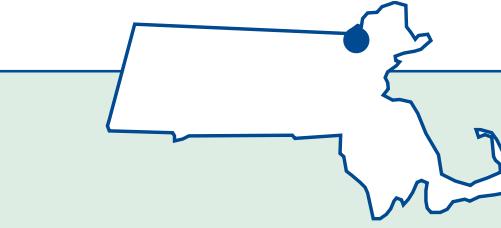
## Lowell, MA

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### Community Description

The City of Lowell was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant and two brownfields cleanup grants. Located along the Merrimack River 30 miles northwest of Boston, Lowell (population 105,167) surged to prominence during the Industrial Revolution and continued to grow into the early 20th Century. The city declined after World War I, and more recently, businesses have relocated due to the lack of suitable expansion sites. The city has been left with abandoned industrial structures that pose potential threats to human health and the environment. Closures and relocations have cost the city nearly 20,000 jobs in the last two decades. Today, Lowell is a federally designated Renewal Community. It has a growing minority population, many of whom live in the targeted JAM (Jackson, Appleton, Middlesex Streets) and Acre



### Assessment Grant

New 2007

#### \$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Lowell for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to perform up to ten Phase I and up to four Phase II environmental site assessments, and support community outreach activities around the city.

### Cleanup Grants

New 2007

#### \$400,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Lowell for two brownfields cleanup grants. Grant funds will be used to clean up 351 Jackson Street in the Hamilton Canal District. This two-acre site was used as a railroad yard, agricultural materials storage facility, and used car lot. It is contaminated with metals and aromatic hydrocarbons. Grant funds also will be used to clean up 291 Jackson Street in the Hamilton Canal District. This site is contaminated with metals and volatile organic compounds. Funds from both grants will be used to conduct community outreach activities.

### Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team

617-918-1424

<http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: City of Lowell, MA  
978-970-4252

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

Urban Renewal areas. The poverty rate in these neighborhoods is significantly higher than the city rate. Assessment of brownfields will help promote development that will create much-needed jobs, housing, and greenspace. Cleanup of the sites on Jackson Street will allow the city to begin development of a new mixed-use site in the Hamilton Canal District project. The project will include up to 1,000 housing units, create at least 175 new permanent full-time jobs, and generate millions in tax receipts.